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HOUSE BILL 522

46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2003

INTRODUCED BY

Roberto J. Gonzales

AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION; REQUIRING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
NURSE IN EVERY SCHOOL PROGRAM; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. A new section of the Public School Code is
enacted to read:

"NEW MATERIAL NURSE IN EVERY SCHOOL PROGRAM -
IMPLEMENTATION - - EXCEPTION. - -

A. The state board shall adopt rules for the
implementation of the "nurse in every school program". Except
as provided in Subsection B of this section, the program shall
ensure that a department of education certified nurse is
employed in every public school in New Mexico. The nurse in
every school program shall be phased in over a five-year period
as follows, with priority given to those school districts that

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1 have the fewest number of nurses employed:

2 (1) effective with the 2003-2004 school year,
3 one-fifth of New Mexico's schools shall have a nurse in every
4 school;

5 (2) effective with the 2004-2005 school year,
6 two-fifths of New Mexico's schools shall have a nurse in every
7 school;

8 (3) effective with the 2005-2006 school year,
9 three-fifths of New Mexico's schools shall have a nurse in
10 every school;

11 (4) effective with the 2006-2007 school year,
12 four-fifths of New Mexico's schools shall have a nurse in every
13 school; and

14 (5) effective with the 2007-2008 school year,
15 a nurse shall be employed in every New Mexico School.

16 B. The state board may develop exceptions to the
17 nurse in every school program requirements for small rural
18 school districts. "

19 Section 2. APPROPRIATION. -- Three million two hundred
20 thousand dollars (\$3,200,000) is appropriated from the general
21 fund to the state department of public education for
22 expenditure in fiscal year 2004 for the purpose of implementing
23 the nurse in every school program. Any unexpended or
24 unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2004
25 shall revert to the general fund.

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